

ASSEMBLY, No. 2610

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 13, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman WAYNE P. DEANGELO

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

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District 37 (Bergen)

SYNOPSIS

Creates New Jersey Advanced Manufacturing Council.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/13/2020)

1 **AN ACT** creating the New Jersey Advanced Manufacturing Council
2 and supplementing Title 34 of the Revised Statutes.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6
7 1. The Legislature finds and declares that:

8 a. New Jersey has a rich history of manufacturing various
9 products, including: food, pharmaceuticals, apparel, chemicals, and
10 glass throughout all regions of New Jersey.

11 b. Traditional manufacturing has been on the decline in New
12 Jersey for the past 50 years, due to an increase in the availability of
13 inexpensive transportation connecting all areas of the nation and the
14 world. The lower expense of transporting products allowed goods to
15 be made in a location geographically removed from where the
16 products would be sold and consumed. Manufacturers moved their
17 production facilities to locations outside of New Jersey that
18 provided unskilled labor at a lower cost. The movement of these
19 large facilities decreased employment opportunities in the
20 manufacturing industry in New Jersey and decreased the
21 contribution of manufacturing to the State's economic growth.

22 c. However, New Jersey can compete in manufacturing,
23 particularly in advanced manufacturing, which can capitalize on the
24 already existing, innovative, manufacturing base, comprised of tens
25 of thousands of small and mid-sized facilities throughout New
26 Jersey.

27 d. Advanced manufacturing is an emergent cluster of industries
28 in New Jersey and nationally. According to the New Jersey
29 Department of Labor and Workforce Development, the advanced
30 manufacturing industry cluster is primarily composed of five
31 groups: chemical manufacturing, computer and electronic product
32 manufacturing, machinery manufacturing, fabricated metal product
33 manufacturing, and food manufacturing.

34 e. The President's Council of Advisors on Science and
35 Technology defines advanced manufacturing as a "family of
36 activities that (a) depend on the use and coordination of
37 information, automation, computation, software, sensing, and
38 networking, and/or (b) make use of cutting edge materials and
39 emerging capabilities enabled by the physical and biological
40 sciences, for example nanotechnology, chemistry, and biology. It
41 involves both new ways to manufacture existing products, and the
42 manufacture of new products emerging from new advanced
43 technologies."

44 f. New Jersey has the unique characteristics of central
45 geographic location, thriving ports and transportation centers, and
46 an educated workforce that can be utilized to encourage and
47 energize the advanced manufacturing industry in this State.

1 g. The advanced manufacturing industry cluster contributed
2 over \$33 billion to New Jersey's Gross Domestic Product in 2014,
3 or about 6.6 percent of all State output, according to the Department
4 of Labor and Workforce Development.

5 h. To facilitate the growth of advanced manufacturing in New
6 Jersey, a coalition of business, education and labor must commit to
7 coordinating the development of technologically advanced skills in
8 our education systems to create the labor force necessary for this
9 occupation and industry.

10
11 2. a. There is created, in the New Jersey State Employment
12 and Training Commission, established pursuant to section 5 of
13 P.L.1989, c.293 (C.34:15C-2), a council which shall be known as
14 the New Jersey Advanced Manufacturing Council.

15 b. The council shall consist of 11 members who are individuals
16 with experience in the fields of labor, education, or workforce
17 development or training. The 11 members shall be appointed by the
18 Governor as follows: two members shall be recommended by the
19 Senate President; two members shall be recommended by the
20 Speaker of the General Assembly; one member shall be
21 recommended by the Minority Leader of the Senate; one member
22 shall be recommended by the Minority Leader of the General
23 Assembly; and, five members shall be recommended by the
24 Governor. The members shall be appointed for five-year terms,
25 except, of the members first appointed, four members shall be
26 appointed for five-year terms, four member shall be appointed for
27 three-year terms, and three members shall be appointed for four-
28 year terms. Each member shall hold office for the term of
29 appointment and until a successor is appointed and qualified. A
30 member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring in the membership of
31 the council for any reason other than the expiration of the term shall
32 have a term of appointment for the unexpired term only. Vacancies
33 shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment. A
34 member may be appointed for any number of successive terms. Any
35 member appointed may be removed from the council by the
36 appointing authority, as the case may be, for cause, after a hearing
37 and may be suspended by the appointing authority pending the
38 completion of the hearing.

39 c. Members of the council shall serve without compensation,
40 but may be reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in the
41 performance of their duties as members. Action may be taken and
42 motions and resolutions may be adopted by the council at a council
43 meeting by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members. The
44 council shall elect from its members a chairperson. Advanced
45 notification for, and copies of the minutes of, each meeting of the
46 council shall be filed with the Governor, the President of the
47 Senate, and the Speaker of the General Assembly.

3. The Council shall:

- a. convene and enable industry-led, private-public partnerships focused on engaging New Jersey institutions of higher education in manufacturing innovation;
- b. design and implement an advanced manufacturing initiative to facilitate collaboration and information sharing across State departments and agencies;
- c. assist private companies to enhance technological transfer in New Jersey manufacturing industries to help companies overcome technical obstacles to scaling up production of new technologies; and
- d. submit an annual report to the Governor, the Legislature, and the State Employment and Training Commission, of its assessments and recommendations to enhance State policy related to the advanced manufacturing industry in New Jersey.

4. The council is authorized to:

- a. hold public hearings;
- b. employ staff, responsible to the Executive Director of the State Employment and Training Commission, to assist the council to implement the purposes of this act; and
- c. avail itself of the services of the employees and have access to the records of any instrumentality of the State, as necessary or useful to implement the purposes of this act.

5. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill creates, in the New Jersey State Employment and Training Commission, the New Jersey Advanced Manufacturing Council. The bill directs the council to:

- convene and enable industry-led, private-public partnerships focused on engaging New Jersey institutions of higher education in manufacturing innovation;
- design and implement an advanced manufacturing initiative to facilitate collaboration and information sharing across State departments and agencies;
- assist private companies to enhance technological transfer in New Jersey manufacturing industries to help companies overcome technical obstacles to scaling up production of new technologies; and
- submit, to the Governor, the Legislature, and the State Employment and Training Commission, an annual report of the council's assessments and recommendations to enhance State policy related to the advanced manufacturing industry in New Jersey.

1 The term “advanced manufacturing” is often used to describe
2 products or processes that utilize technological advances to enhance
3 the way we make things or the things that we make. Examples of
4 advanced manufacturing products include innovative drugs and
5 chemicals, state-of-the-art electronic components, and groundbreaking
6 surgical and medical devices, among others. The industry is
7 constantly evolving and, as a result, not only requires a well-educated
8 workforce, but also needs workers willing to continue to develop their
9 knowledge base and remain current with changing technology.
10 Advanced manufacturing and its ongoing innovation is vital to New
11 Jersey’s continued economic success.

12 The New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce
13 Development currently characterizes the advanced manufacturing
14 industry cluster as being primarily composed of five groups: chemical
15 manufacturing, computer and electronic product manufacturing,
16 machinery manufacturing, fabricated metal product manufacturing,
17 and food manufacturing. The Department of Labor and Workforce
18 Development reports that New Jersey’s advanced manufacturing
19 industry cluster contributed more than \$33 billion to New Jersey’s
20 Gross Domestic Product in 2014, or about 6.6 percent of all State
21 output.

22 Under the bill, the council will act as a conduit to assist in
23 developing a workforce in New Jersey that is trained in the high
24 technology industry sectors needed by advanced manufacturers. This
25 will provide a stable workforce for the manufacturers and will assist
26 this vital industry in New Jersey to grow and prosper.